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Quality Control

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 5 as with the following amended paragraph:

A clinical assay typically requires detection of at least one designated target analyte in a patient test sample. In the method of the invention, at least one calibrated standard laboratory analytical instrument is ~~used~~ used to assign target values for the target analyte in a serum-based control pool. Suitable analytical instruments include, for example, atomic absorption spectrometers, such as those available from Perkin Elmer Instruments, Norwalk, CT, under the trade designation Atomic Absorption Spectrometer 3300, and inductively coupled plasma atomic emission spectrometers.

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